

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 07159 131150Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-10
NSAE-00 ICA-20 OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /153 W
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P R 122137Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7430
INFO USUN NEW YORK 822
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 7159

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID UN TCDC
SUBJ: UN CONFERENCE ON TCDC MAIN COMMITTEE -- SEPT. 7 THROUGH 11

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6985

1. SUMMARY: FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES MAIN COMMITTEE
CEASED TO FUNCTION SEPT. 6 AND PASSED BATON TO OPEN-ENDED
WORKING GROUP (WG) WHICH PROCEEDED TO NEGOTIATE THE PLAN OF
ACTION DAY AND NIGHT UNTIL 6 A.M. SEPT. 10 WHEN IT COMPLETED
ITS WORK. THE MAIN COMMITTEE FINALLY ADOPTED THE PLAN
OF ACTION AT 2:30 A.M. SEPT. 11 AND REFERRED IT TO PLENARY
SEPT. 12 FOR FORMAL APPROVAL. END SUMMARY.

2. EVERY PARAGRAPH AND RECOMMENDATION OF DRAFT PLAN WAS
REWRITTEN BY G-77, USUALLY TO MAKE IT MORE BINDING ON UN
SYSTEM ORGANIZATIONS AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND LESS BINDING
ON LDC'S. PURPOSE SEEMED TO BE AS MUCH TO DEMONSTRATE G-77
WAS IN CHARGE AS TO ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES.

3. WG CHAIRMAN POINTEDLY EXCLUDED UN SPECIALIZED AGENCY
AND OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL DELEGATES FROM PARTICIPATION IN
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 07159 131150Z

WG ON GROUNDS HE WAS FOLLOWING NEW YORK PROCEDURES. THIS
MOVE WAS OPPOSED BY US BUT SUPPORTED BY CANADA AND
G-77. AFTER AGENCY PROTESTS TO CONFERENCE SEC GEN MORSE, CHAIRMAN
RELENTED BY ALLOWING ONE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE TO
BE PRESENT IN WG TO TAKE NOTES AND BRIEF OTHER
AGENCIES. WE UNDERSTAND UN AGENCIES ARE PLANNING TO
TAKE ACTION AT ACC LEVEL IN ORDER TO PREVENT REPETITION

OF THIS ACTION AT FUTURE WORLD CONFERENCES.

4. MORE DIFFICULT QUESTIONS WERE REFERRED, AFTER ONE ROUND OF DISCUSSION, TO SMALL CONTACT GROUP OF 16 WEO DELEGATES AND 6 FROM G-77, WHICH AT TIMES MET PARALLEL WITH WG.

5. PRINCIPAL ISSUES SETTLED IN WG INCLUDED: (A) NEWLY INTRODUCED CHAPEAU FOR CHAPTER II WHICH IN G-77 FORMULATION EMPHASIZED THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED WERE TO SUPPORT PLANS OF ACTION DECIDED BY THE LDC'S THEMSELVES; (B) REDRAFT OF BRAIN DRAIN RECOMMENDATION (#26) WHICH IN G-77 VERSION STRESSED THE NEED FOR GOVERNMENT CONTROLS OVER EMIGRATIONS; (C) EXPANSION OF INRES AND REGIONAL INFORMATION FLOWS (#20 AND 24), INCLUDING THE NEED FOR EVALUATION AND WORKING WITH EXISTING REGIONAL STRUCTURE; (D) ROLE OF UN AGENCIES AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (#31, 36) WHICH REQUIRED CONSIDERABLE WATERING DOWN TO REMOVE PEREMPTORY LANGUAGE; (E) INCLUSION IN PLAN OF ACTION OF TWO NEW (THROUGH GREATLY REDUCED) US-PROPOSED SECTIONS (SEE BUENOS AIRES 6997) WHICH STRESSED THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

6. THE GAP BETWEEN POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE G-77 AND THOSE HELD BY THE WESTERN COUNTRIES REQUIRED CAREFUL EXPLORATION OF OBJECTIVES AND NEGOTIATIONS IN A UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BUENOS 07159 131150Z

CONTACT GROUP WHICH AD REFERENDUM DRAFTED COMPROMISE LANGUAGE ON A NUMBER OF THE MOST DIFFICULT RECOMMENDATIONS AS REWRITTEN BY THE G-77. PRINCIPAL ISSUES WERE: RECOMMENDATIONS (30) THE USE OF LDC CAPACITIES; (33) STRENGTHENING OF UNDP CAPACITY TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT TCDC; (34) LDC SUPPORT FOR TCDC; (37) INTERGOVERNMENTAL ARRANGEMENTS; AND (38) FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

7. LEADING PARTICIPANTS FOR THE LDC'S WERE ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, INDIA, JAMAICA, KUWAIT, NIGERIA, AND ZAMBIA. THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WERE REPRESENTED VARIOUSLY BY BELGIUM, CANADA, FRG, FRANCE, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, U.K. AND THE U.S. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS THE PRINCIPAL PLAYERS WERE INDIA, JAMAICA, AND BRAZIL FOR THE G-77, AND CANADA, THE U.S., U.K., AND SWEDEN FOR THE WEO.

8. RECOMMENDATION 37, INVOLVING THE INTEGRITY OF THE UNDP, WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF THE CONFERENCE. THE G-77 WANTED TO EXPAND THE UNDP 48-COUNTRY GOVERNING COUNCIL TO 149 MEMBER STATES.

IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD NOT BE SOLVED
AT THE WORKING GROUP LEVEL, SO RECOMMENDATION 37 WAS
TRANSFERRED -- AT US INITIATIVE -- TO A CONTACT GROUP
CONSISTING OF THE HEADS OF DELEGATION FROM THE US,
PRC, POLAND, JAMAICA (FOR THE G-77), EGYPT (CHAIRMAN
OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE), THE FRG, AND THE NETHERLANDS.
THIS CONTACT GROUP FINALLY RESOLVED RECOMMENDATION 37
AT 4:30 A.M., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, AFTER SEVEN
HOURS ON CONTINUOUS NEGOTIATIONS. THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
IS INTACT.

9. THIS FAIRLY COMPLICATED INFORMA STRUCTURE WAS WHAT
FINALLY SAVED THE CONFERENCE AND BROUGHT ABOUT FINAL
ADOPTIONS OF THE PLAN OF ACTION BY CONSENSUS.
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PAGE 04 BUENOS 07159 131150Z

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